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TC 1700

Case 8550

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



17/18
03/06/03
HS

In the Application of Bond et al. :
Serial No.: 09/852,889 : Group Art Unit 1711
Confirmation No.: 5411 :
Filed: May 10, 2001 : Examiner U. K. Rajguru
For FIBERS COMPRISING STARCH :
AND BIODEGRADABLE
POLYMERS

#8

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the Final Office Action dated October 25, 2002, the time to respond being extended by 1 month, please consider the above-identified application in view of the following remarks and claim amendments.

02/19/2003 HBLAND 00000020 162480 09852889

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AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1 and 15.

- AI
1. (Amended) A environmentally degradable, highly attenuated fiber produced by melt spinning a composition comprising:
 - a. destructureized starch,
 - b. a biodegradable thermoplastic polymer having a molecular weight of less than 500,000 g/mol; and
 - c. a plasticizer

15. (Amended) A environmentally degradable, highly attenuated fiber produced by melt spinning a composition comprising:

- 132
- a. from about 5% to about 80% of destructureized starch,